

management of the coastal area of North Carolina -- which is the primary objective of CAMA.

B. History of Kill Devil Hills

while the first recorded accounts by a European expedition of the Southeast coast of the United States date to the early 1500's, it was not until July of 1584 that Sir Walter Raleigh's ships found the "abundant" New World known today as North Carolina's Outer Banks. Raleigh's colony was established and was lost on Roanoke Island. Successful settlement of the Banks did not come for another seventy-five years.

Colington Island, near Kill Devil Hills, was the first land grant issued in the New World by the Lords Proprietors of Carolina. A plantation settlement was soon established with crops and livestock. Abundant timber provided lumber for boats and homes, and the island's grasses were ideal to support livestock. Early settlers lived off the land, water, and salvage operations from shipwrecks.

Kill Devil Hill is the largest sand hill in the area and is now grassed over with the Wright Brothers National Memorial situated on the top. Many legends and folktales are associated with the origin of the name Kill Devil Hills or Kill Devil Hill. One account involves a legendary liquor made on the Banks and sold on the hill that was so bad it would "kill the devil." Another is the story of an Outer Banks Hermit known as "Fresh Pond Will" who vowed to give the devil his soul for a bag of gold. The tale goes on to explain how Fresh Pond Will tricked the devil to fall to his death into a pit of quicksand, a trap that Will had prepared previously, thus "killing the devil on the hill."

Livelihoods of the early inhabitants, or "bankers," included scavengers, boat builders, fishermen, coast guardsman, pilots, and lumbermen. By 1878, the Federal government had constructed a lifesaving station in Kill Devil Hills. The Wright Brothers made history in 1903 with the first successful heavier than air powered flight at Kill Devil Hills. This event is marked by a monument made of granite, sixty-one feet in height. Designed also as an aid to navigation, the landmark is known as the Wright Brothers National Memorial.

By the time the first post office was established in Kill Devil Hills in 1938, it was clear the area had a